

REMARKS

With this Amendment, Applicant cancels claims 1-15 and 27-75. Therefore, claims 16-26 are all the claims currently pending in this Application. Claims 17-22 stand withdrawn.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-14 stand rejected as allegedly anticipated by Noda (U.S. Patent 5, 510,878).

Claims 1-14 are cancelled.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner indicates that claims 16 and 23-26 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowed if rewritten into independent form including the limitations of the claims from which they depend. With this Amendment, Applicants amend claims 16 and 23 to include the limitations of claim 4 from which they previously depended. Claim 24 is amended to include the limitations of claim 1 from which it previously depended. Claim 25 is amended to include the limitations of claim 14 from which it previously depended. Claim 26 is amended to include the limitations of claim 15 from which it previously depended.

Therefore, in view of the above, Applicants respectfully request the allowance of claims 16 and 23-26.

Request for Rejoinder

Claims 17-22 stand withdrawn, but depend from allowable claim 16. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that claims 17-22 be rejoined as dependent on an allowed claim.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116
U.S. Application No. 10/717,185

Q78558

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

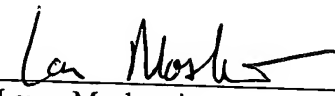
Respectfully submitted,

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Date: August 18, 2006